

### **LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for protecting use of resources in a network, comprising:

receiving a communication address request for a temporary communication address from ~~user-equipment~~ a mobile station, the communication address request including an identifier of the ~~user-equipment~~ the mobile station; and

processing the communication address request based on a failure count accessed using the identifier for the ~~user-equipment~~ the mobile station, the failure count indicating a number of times the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station has been denied registration.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the processing step comprises:

accessing the failure count for the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station based on the identifier; and

ignoring the communication address request if the failure count exceeds a predetermined threshold.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the processing step comprises:

continuing with a registration process if the failure count does not exceed a predetermined threshold.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

incrementing the failure count for the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station if during the registration process the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station is not authenticated.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising:

sending a message to the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station instructing the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station not to attempt registration for a predetermined period of time if the incremented failure count equals or exceeds the predetermined threshold.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station is a mobile station in one of a wireless data network and a wireless voice network.
7. (Original)) The method of claim 5, further comprising:  
decrementing the failure count after a predetermined period of time has elapsed from the sending step.
8. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising:  
decrementing the failure count after a predetermined period of time.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the continuing step continues the registration process if a failure count does not exist for the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising:  
incrementing the failure count for the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station if a failure count was accessed and if during the registration process the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station is not authenticated; and  
initializing a failure count for the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station to an initial value if a failure count does not exist for the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station and if during the registration process the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station is not authenticated.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station is a mobile station in one of a wireless data network and a wireless voice network.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
incrementing the failure count for the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station if during a registration process the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station is not authenticated.
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:  
sending a message to the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station instructing the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station not to attempt registration for a predetermined period of time if the incremented failure count equals or exceeds the predetermined threshold.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
decrementing the failure count after a predetermined period of time has elapsed from the sending step.
15. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising:  
decrementing the failure count after a predetermined period of time.
16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the processing step continues a registration process if a failure count does not exist for the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station.
17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising:  
incrementing the failure count for the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station if a failure count was accessed and if during the registration process the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station is not authenticated; and  
initializing a failure count for the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station to an initial value if a failure count does not exist for the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station and if during the registration process the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station is not authenticated.
18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~user-equipment~~ mobile station is a mobile station in one of a wireless data network and a wireless voice network.